

Kan. Cong. Dist. No. 1

Keith Sebelius

Form 10-300
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

SELGEM

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Kansas	
COUNTY: Saline	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:	Brookville Hotel 169-0610-001
AND/OR HISTORIC:	Central Hotel

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: On Perry street, two lots north of northwest corner of Anderson street and Perry street			
CITY OR TOWN: Brookville			
STATE: Kansas	CODE: 67425	COUNTY: Saline	CODE: 169

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____ _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Mrs. Margret Martin		
STREET AND NUMBER:		
CITY OR TOWN: Brookville	STATE: Kansas	CODE: 67425
		20

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Register of Deeds		
STREET AND NUMBER: Saline County Courthouse		
CITY OR TOWN: Salina	STATE: Kansas	CODE: 67401
		20

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Survey of Historic Sites and Structures in Kansas			
DATE OF SURVEY: 1957	<input type="checkbox"/> Federal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State	<input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Kansas State Historical Society			
STREET AND NUMBER: 120 West Tenth street			
CITY OR TOWN: Topeka	STATE: Kansas	CODE: 66612	20

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Kansas	COUNTY: Saline	ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)

☐ Excellent ☒ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Deteriorated ☐ Ruins ☐ Unexposed

(Check One)

☒ Altered ☐ Unaltered

(Check One)

☐ Moved ☒ Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Brookville Hotel is a white, two-story frame building of horizontal lap siding, which faces east a block and a half north of the Union Pacific railroad tracks in Brookville. A two-story ell extends to the north at the northwest corner of the structure. Of the portion facing east the second story is approximately three-fifths the width of the lower story and is centered above it. A false front screens the double pitch gable roof, and from the center of the facade a semicircle juts upward. The cornice of the false front is ornamented by paired brackets and dentils. In the center of the semicircle is a circular ventilator opening. There is a flat roof over the portion of the building which is one story. A double veranda extends across the width of the east front. On the second story a wooden railing extends around the perimeter of the veranda. All window and door openings are narrow and rectangular. All windows are double-hung. There are two brick chimneys.

In 1904 there was an addition of eight rooms; in 1948 an additional dining room was converted from some bedrooms; in 1960 the old bank building adjacent to the south was taken over and converted to a showplace dining room. The main dining room has been expanded several times.

The upstairs parlor and bedrooms are furnished with Kansas frontier period furniture. In the dining room furnishings are patterned after the original.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

C. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

1870

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Brookville Hotel was constructed in the spring of 1870 at a time when Brookville had six to eight times its current population of 250. Three new hotels opened that spring and this one was first known as the Central Hotel.

In 1870 Brookville was a railroad division point on the Kansas Pacific Railroad (now the Union Pacific) and one of the terminals for the cattle drives from Texas. Brookville never achieved the stature of Abilene or Ellsworth as a cattle town, but for a number of years in the early 1870's the cattle business helped bring prosperity to the town. An 1870 letter from a Kansas correspondent to a Pennsylvania newspaper described the cattle trade in the state and listed Brookville as one of four principal shipping points on the Kansas Pacific. In 1871 there were 6,520 head of cattle shipped from Brookville, 12,420 in 1872, 5,680 in 1873, and 10,400 in 1874. An 1875 edition of the Kansas Pacific guide map of the "Great Texas Cattle Trail" recommended Brookville as one of five main points on the Kansas Pacific for shipping cattle.

The old Central Hotel was one of the headquarters of the cattlemen who drove Texas cattle to the railroad at Brookville. The Texas cattle drives were a mixed blessing for along with the boost to the economy they brought Texas fever which killed the native cattle. Brookville was a bustling little town for several years, but because of fencing, legal barriers, and new railroads the cattle drives shifted westward. Another damaging blow to the town came in 1890 when the roundhouse and division point status were lost, and all hotels but the old Central closed their doors.

The original owner was Mary L. Snyder. By 1885 the hotel had passed into the hands of A. Jennings, and in 1892 Gus Magnuson acquired it. He operated the hotel until his death in 1933. Ownership and operation of the hotel has continued in the hands of his descendants. The current owner, Mrs. Margret Martin, is the widow of his grandson.

The Brookville Hotel has long been famous in Kansas for its "family style" fried chicken dinners, which have been featured since 1915. During World War II military personnel who were stationed at nearby Camp Phillip and the Smoky Hill Air Base spread the word throughout the country about the fine food of the Brookville Hotel. Duncan Hines dined there and put the hotel on the approved list of fine eating places in the United States.

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(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Kansas	
COUNTY	
Saline	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

6. Federal Writers' Project of the Works Project Administration (1939)
Federal
Records destroyed. A guidebook, Kansas, was published in 1939.
8. The Brookville Hotel after 100 years continues to be used for its original purpose--to provide food and lodging for the public. It is believed to be the oldest hotel in Kansas still operating in its original location. Also, it has strong associations with the cattle-drive era in that it was a headquarters for Texas cattlemen, a fact reportedly substantiated by old hotel registers which have been preserved.
9. Giddens, Paul H., editor, "News from Kansas in 1870," Kansas Historical Quarterly, v. 11, no. 2 (May, 1938), pp. 177-179.
Greene, Zula Bennington, "Adventure in Eating," Topeka Daily Capital, August 27, 1942.
"Historic Brookville Hotel" (n.p., n.d.), 6 pp. brochure.
History of the State of Kansas (Chicago, A. T. Andreas, 1883), p. 706.
Johnston, Eleanor Richey, "Fried Chicken Wins Fame for Kansas Town of 200," Kansas City Star, November 2, 1947.
Maxwell, William A., "Stock Raising in Saline County," Salina Journal, March 6, 1884.
Morrow, Darrell, "Little Hotel Thrives on Its Food," Wichita Eagle, August 18, 1969.
Streeter, F. B., "Ellsworth as a Texas Cattle Market," Kansas Historical Quarterly, v. 4, no. 1 (February, 1935), pp. 395, 397.
Whittemore, Margaret, "Brookville, Home of Hot Biscuits and Cattle," Topeka Daily Capital, August 16, 1953.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Annual Report of the Kansas Pacific Railway Company (Saint Louis, Levison and Blythe, 1869, 1870, 1871, 1872, 1873, 1874, 1875, 1876).
 "Brookville Hotel Wrapped Up with Kansas History," Abilene Reflector, June 26, 1940.
 "Fried Chicken, Biscuits Win Fame for Kansas Town of 200," To the Stars, v. 3, no. 11 (September, 1948), published by Kansas Industrial Development Commission, p. 5.
 Gard, Wayne, The Chisholm Trail (Norman, University of Oklahoma Press, 1954), pp. 160, 189.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY.			Q R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees	Minutes Seconds
NW	0 0 0	0 0 0		38 46 23	97	52 01
NE	0 0 0	0 0 0				
SE	0 0 0	0 0 0				
SW	0 0 0	0 0 0				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: one acre

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:		Richard D. Pankratz, Planner	
ORGANIZATION	DATE	October 8, 1971	
KANSAS STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
120 West Tenth Street			
CITY OR TOWN:	STATE	CODE	
Topeka	Kansas	66612	20

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☒ Local ☐

Name Nyle H. Miller

Title Executive Secretary, Kansas State Historical Society

Date October 11, 1971

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date

SEE INSTRUCTIONS